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## NEVADA CLIMATE SUMMARY

FOR MAY 1985

Vol. 2, Number 5  
June 1985

Nevada State Library

FEB 3 1986

JUN 17 1985

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Temperatures were near normal over all but Southern Nevada, where May 1985 was 2-4° degrees warmer than the long term average. Precipitation was well below normal, in fact non-existent at many locations, except in a narrow swath across Central Nevada where it was a little above normal, and over 3 times average at Yerington, where two thunderstorm days supplied most of the month's 2.44" amount. As a result, the May total at Yerington was only a little less than one-half the average annual amount.

TEMPERATURE

After a cold winter half-year and a very warm April, May was a welcome relief as temperatures averaged near normal over most of Nevada, with no unusually cold or warm readings logged. There was a meteorological twist though, as April's warmth carried into May 1st so that this was the warmest day at several locations. At the other end of the month when it should be warmer, an unusual late season cold spell brought the month's lowest temperatures at many locations. For example, at Ely the 81° reading on the 1st was a record high for that date, while the 22° mark on the 30th was a record low for the date. Preliminary data indicates that only Battle Mountain (21°), Carver's Station (19°) and Manhattan (18°) (the latter two sites are located north of Tonopah) were colder than Ely.

Only in Southern Nevada did temperatures stray very far from normal as readings were from 2-4 degrees above normal, with Laughlin recording the State's high of 108° on the 2nd. In fact, 16 days were at 100° or higher at this "lowest elevation station" in Nevada along the Colorado River. In Moapa Valley, Logandale reached 106°.

Heating requirements were near normal Statewide, except well below normal in the South, where in fact cooling requirements were above normal and heating degree day units (HDD) non-existent. For example, Las Vegas had no HDD and 378 cooling degree day units (CDD), and Laughlin no HDD and 477 CDD.

PRECIPITATION

Except for a small area in the Central portion of Nevada precipitation during May was well below normal, in fact non-existent at many locations (e.g. Winnemucca, Reno, Carson City, Daggett Pass, Incline, Virginia City, Las Vegas, Boulder City and Laughlin).

Although it was not a record, Reno went 65 consecutive days with no measurable precipitation - from the end of March until early June. This was indicative of the extreme dryness of Northwest Nevada, where not only was it a drier than normal winter, but an unusually dry Spring. In a normal year 1.20 inches would have fallen in Reno during April - May, or about 17% of the average annual amount.

Precipitation was above normal only in a narrow path across Central Nevada from Yerington-Austin-Ely, with the latter two locations experiencing a little above normal amounts, while Yerington was over 3 times normal. Most of the 2.44 inch total at Yerington occurred in 2 days, with 1.24" in one 24 hour period during thundershower activity on the 23rd-24th. However, this was not the greatest 24 hour total in Nevada as 1.46" was measured at Lehman Caves, southeast of Ely between 4:00 p.m. May 20 and 10:00 a.m. on the 21st.

#### SUNSHINE AND WIND

Sunshine hours were above normal Statewide, especially in the South, where Las Vegas had 94% of the possible compared to a normal of 85%. In the West, Reno had 85% (normal = 81%) and in the East Ely had 76% of normal sunshine hours versus a usual 73%.

Wind was also above normal this month, with all reporting stations logging higher averages than during most Mays. The highest reported gusts were 56 mph at Las Vegas on the 9th and 65 mph atop 9700 foot Slide Mountain on the 28th.

John W. James  
State Climatologist for Nevada

MAY 1985

## PRELIMINARY NEVADA CLIMATE DATA

LOCATION	ELEV	MAX	MIN	MEAN	DEPART	HIGHEST	LOWEST	HEATING			PRECIP	DEPART	GR. 24 HR
								DEGREE					
								DAYS	(Base - 65°)				
-----													
Northeast													
Carson City	4650'	70.8	39.3	55.0	+0.2	1st 83	30th 27	309	-15	0	-	.62	
Daggett Pass	7380	60.5	34.8	47.6	-	22nd 72	11th 24	536	-	T	-		
Denio	4185	74.6	37.7	56.2	+1.5	23rd 89	5th 21	286	-	.07	-1.04	20th .05	
Fallon NAS	3935	74.2	44.8	59.5	-0.1	23rd 92	30th* 36	-	-	.10	-	.47	24th* .04
Glenbrook	6350	60.8	36.4	48.6	-0.3	23rd* 71	11th 28	508	+ 9	0	-1.14		
Incline	6525	67.5	35.5	51.5	+0.7	23rd* 80	11th 27	420	-	T	-	.58	28th T
Lovelock	3975	74.8	40.3	57.6	-0.5	23rd 88	30th 30	241	- 5	.03	-	.48	25th .02
Reno WSFO AP	4405	73.4	39.2	56.3	+1.7	23rd 86	11th 30	266	-67	T	-	.74	29th* T
Reno UNR	4550	73.3	42.9	58.1	-	23rd 86	30th 32	-	-	T	-		29th* T
Virginia City	6340	65.1	42.6	53.9	+1.2	23rd 78	10th 33	344	-37	T	-1.07	29th T	
Winnemucca	4295	74.0	35.4	54.7	0	24th* 88	13th* 22	314	-20	T	-	.80	29th* T
Yerington	4375	74.3	41.9	58.1	+0.9	23rd* 85	11th 32	223	-42	2.44	+1.67	24th 1.24	
Northeast													
Austin	6605	66.4	37.6	52.0	+0.7	24th 81	30th* 27	-	-	1.57	+	.13	10th .75

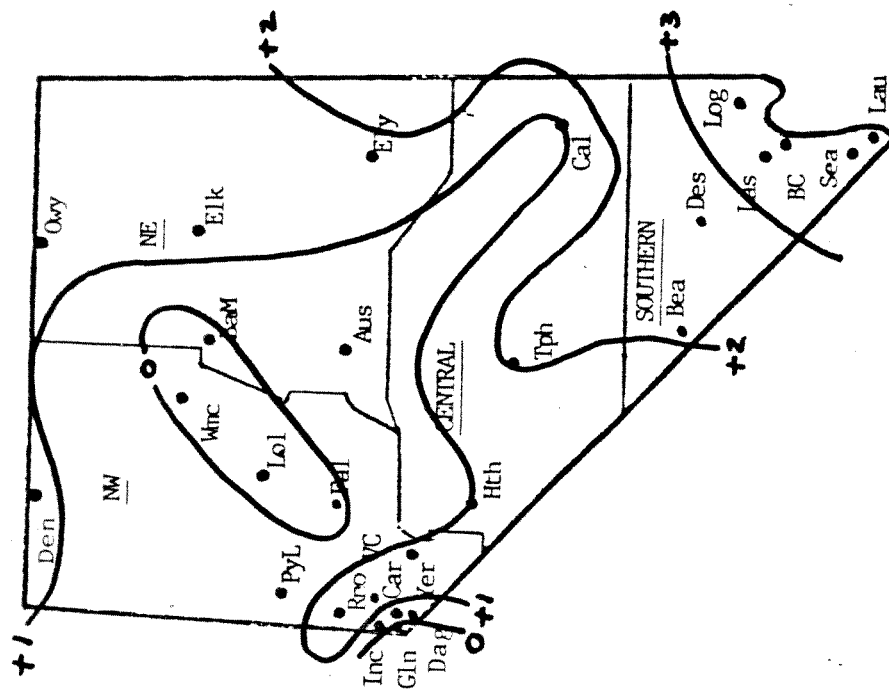
May 1985 (Continued)

LOCATION	ELEV	MAX	MIN	MEAN	DEPART	HIGHEST	LOWEST	HEATING		DEPART	PRECIP	DEPART	GR. 24 HR
								DEGREE	DAYS				
Battle Mt. AP	4340	74.2	35.2	54.7	-0.5	23rd 88	5th 21	317	- 3	.29	-	.56	16th* .10
Elko	5075	69.8	38.1	54.0	+1.6	1st 80	13th* 25	335	-61	.60	-	.43	10th .29
Ely	6260	70.0	35.7	52.9	+1.8	1st 82	30th 22	371	-91	1.33	+	.25	10th 1.26
Central													
Caliente	4400	78.3	43.6	61.0	+1.1	1st 88	13th 32	129	-68	.29	-	.35	10th .08
Hawthorne	4215	77.3	44.9	61.1	+0.9	1st 91	30th 35	144	-38	.08	-	.54	20th .10
Tonopah AP	5425	75.7	42.3	59.2	+2.2	24th* 83	30th* 34	186	-83	.10	-	.42	
Southern													
Beatty 8N	3550	81.6	47.0	64.3	-	24th 90	14th 40	48	-44	.18	-	.04	10th .18
Boulder City	2525	90.0	63.3	76.5	+3.4	24th* 98	12th* 52	1	-11	0	-	.25	0
Desert Rock	3300	84.4	54.3	69.3	+2.1	20th 94	10th 43	17	-55	.20	-	-	10th .12
Las Vegas	2160	66.9	42.8	76.9	+3.6	24th 99	11th 52	0	-22	T	-	.20	9th T
Laughlin	550	97.9	62.9	80.4	-	2nd 108	11th 55	0	-	0	-	-	0
Logandale	1320	93.7	56.7	75.2	-	24th 106	13th 48	0	-	.01	-	-	31st .01
Searchlight	3540	-	-	-	-	24th* 90	10th 45	-	-	.03	-	.22	31st .03

Latest of more than one occurrence

# DEPARTURE OF MEAN TEMPERATURE FROM NORMAL (F°)

MAY 1985



# PERCENTAGE OF NORMAL PRECIPITATION

MAY 1985

